

THROUGH GIVING Bill Butterworth, Author & Speaker December 6, 2015

Malachi 2:17 – 3:12

All In Involves more than 9 of 10. It's ALL 10!

A. The Lord is <u>COMING</u>. Malachi 3:1

The Messenger - MALACHI

Prepare the way before me - <u>JOHN THE BAPTIST</u>

B. The Lord is <u>REFINING</u>. *Malachi 3:2-4*

Get Rid of the EXCESS

Refining involves FIRE

C. The Lord is GIVING. Malachi 3:8-12

The GENEROUS Giver has a GENEROUS REWARD.

2 Corinthians 9:6

• The <u>CHEERFUL</u> Giver has a <u>FEARLESS FUTURE</u>.

2 Corinthians 9:7

• The <u>GRACIOUS</u> Giver has an <u>ALL IN ATTITUDE</u>

And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed; 9 as it is written, "He scattered abroad, he gave to the poor, His righteousness endures forever." 2 Corinthians 9:8-9

NEXT STEPS

- I am committing to follow Jesus for the first time today.
- I am re-committing to follow Jesus today.
- I am willing to accept being ALL IN, especially as it relates to my finances.



Lesson Aim: All in involves more than 9 of 10, it's all 10!

Prayer: Ask the Holy Spirit to lead your time together.

- Icebreaker: With what are you generous: Your money? Time? Talents? "Toys"? With what are you stingy?
 - 1. Thinking back on Bill Butterworth's message, what is one thing that encouraged or challenged you?

2. **Read Malachi 2:17-3:5.** How have the people wearied the Lord in word? In deed? What is the Lord's response?

3. What will the day of the Lord's coming be like? What does the Lord's judgment process entail?

4. How have you "wearied" the Lord? How has the Lord responded?

5. **Read Malachi 3:6-12.** How had Malachi's peers robbed God? With what results?

6. How does the Lord challenge the people to put Him to the test?

7. Are there any ways in which you have been "robbing God"? What can you do to change that?

8. **Read 2 Corinthians 8:1-15.** What principles of giving do you learn from the Macedonians?

9. How will one of these apply to your life in a practical way?

Close in prayer as God leads you.

Memorizing Scripture is a key tool to resist temptation, make wise decisions, strengthen us under stress, comfort us when we're sad and to witness to those who don't know Christ.

Memory Verse(s) of the Week: 2 Corinthians 8:9